

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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P R 171605Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 8577

LIMDIS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING, OCTOBER 16, 1973

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AD HOC' GROUP'S FIRST VIENNA MEETING DISCUSSED ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS, PLANNED CONTACT WITH ROMANIAN DELEGATION, TURKISH OPENING STATEMENT (APPROVED TEXT SEPTTEL), U.S. OPENING STATEMENT (DISCUSSION AND REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE SEPTTEL), AND U.S. DRAFT PAPER ON "ALLIED PRESS TACTICS IN VIENNA FOR THE FIRST STAGE."

2. ADMINSTRATIVE HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED AGREEMENT THAT AD HOC GROUP MEET DAILY FOR THE TIME BEING, REPORT THAT ISSUANCE OF DIPLOMATIC ID CARDS WAS BEING HELD UP BY PACT INABILITY TO ACCEPT AUSTRIAN PROPOSED FORMAT AND AN FRG REQUEST THAT ITS NAME PLAQUE AT PLENARY MEETINGS READ "GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF" AS IS NOW THE CASE AT THE U.N.

3. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ROMANIAN CONTACT FOCUSED ON TACTICS OF GETTING ROMANIA TO AGREE THAT OPENING STATEMENTS WILL BE  
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PRESENTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER. IT WAS AGREED THAT CANADIAN

DEPREP WILL CONTACT ROMANIAN DELOFF POPESCU (WHO HAS BEEN TRYING TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH CANADIAN DELEGATION) AND SUGGEST ALPHABETICAL ORDER TO HIM. FALLBACKS, WHICH INCLUDE ROMANIA FIRST AND OTHERS TO FOLLOW IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER WILL NOT BE MENTIONED AT THIS TIME.

4. U.S. CIRCULATED REVISED DRAFT OF PAPER ON "ALLIED PRESS TACTICS IN VIENNA FOR THE FIRST STAGE." APART FROM VARIOUS MINOR DRAFTING CHANGES, DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON THE BEST TACTICS FOR INDUCING THE PACT TO ACCEPT AN INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREED ARRANGEMENT FOR CONFIDENTIALITY (EXPRESSED IN POINT 8 IN THE MAY 14, 1973 PLENARY) THAT WOULD PERMIT WESTERN BACKGROUNDERS WITH THE PRESS. U.S. AGREED TO CIRCULATE A FINAL VERSION (SEPTEL) BASED ON THIS DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. CHAIRMAN (CANADIAN REP GRANDE) OPENED THE MEETING BY RAISING QUESTION OF THE AD HOC GROUP'S SCHEDULE FOR THE PERIOD PRIOR TO THE FIRST PLENARY ON OCTOBER 30. THE GROUP ACCEPTED HIS SUGGESTION TO MEET EVERY MORNING AT 10:30 IN THE U.S. DELEGATION CONFERENCE ROOM. CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM THE FIRST WEEK WOULD BE CIRCULATED TO THE GROUP FOR APPROVAL WHEN IT WAS AVAILABLE, AND BELGIAN ACTING REP (WILLOT) WXPLAINED THAT THIS DELAY WAS DUE TO THE COMPLICATIONS OF THE MOVE FROM BRUSSELS TO VIENNA. THE CHAIRMAN ASKED WHETHER, IN CALCULATING THE THREE WEEKS AFTER WHICH AN ORAL REPORT AT THE NAC WOULD BE DUE, THE WEEK OF MEETING IN BRUSSELS SHOULD BE COUNTED. UK REP (ROSE) SUGGESTED THAT THE FIRST REPORT TO THE NAC BE ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, SINCE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD THEN HAVE BEGUN AND THERE WOULD BE MATTERS OF GREATER INTEREST TO THE NAC TO REPORT. BELGIAN ACTING REP INQUIRED WHETHER NATO WOULD BE WORKING ON NOVEMBER 2, SINCE IT WAS PART OF A HOLIDAY WEEKEND. UK REP RESPONDED THAT THE GROUP SHOULD OFFER TO REPORT ON THE 2ND, AND OFFER TO REPORT ON THE 9TH IF THE NAC DID NOT WISH TO MEET ON THE 2ND. THERE WAS A CONSENSUS ON THIS ARRANGEMENT.

6. CHAIRMAN ASKED THE BELGIAN ACTING REP WHETHER HE HAD HAD FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE POLIST OR AUSTRIAN REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS. BELGIAN ACTING REP REPLIED  
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THAT HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH POLISH REP (STRULAK) ON OCTOBER 17. IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO "HAPPEN TO RUN INTO" AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVE ZANETTI TO PASS ALONG THE AD HOC GROUP'S MESSAGES REGARDING THE OPENING SESSION AS HE HAD BEEN ASKED. (DETAILS IN NATO 4805 AND 4806)

7. FRG REP (BEHREND) RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE FRG IN ITS NAME PLATE ON THE TABLE AT PLEANNIES. HE

RECALLED THAT LAST YEAR THE FRG'S NAME PLAQUE READ "FEDERAL  
REPUBLIC OF GERMANY" EVEN THROUGH IT WAS ALPHABETIZED AS "GERMANY,  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF" BECAUSE THE SOVIETS STATED THAT THEY DID  
NOT WISH TO PREJUDICE THE ISSUE OF THE LISTING WHEN THE FRG  
JOINED THE U.N. AT THE U.N. , FRG DELEGATES SIT BEHIND A SIGN SAYING  
"GERMANY, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF". HIS AUTHORITIES WISHED TO  
SETTLE THE MATTER ONCE AND FOR ALL BY GETTING THE SAME ARRANGEMENT  
AT MBFR AS AT THE U.N. THE FRG HAD MENTIONED THIS ISSUE  
IN THE SPC, AND THEIR  
EMBASSY IN VIENNA HAD RAISED IT INFORMALLY WITH THE  
GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRIA. THE AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL HAD RESPONDED  
THAT AUSTRIA WAS HOST AT THE CONFERENCE BUT NOT ITS ORGANIZER.  
AUSTRIAN WOULD MAKE TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS BUT WOULD  
NOT SETTLE THIS ISSUE, IF IT PROVED TO BE CONTENTIOUS. THE  
CHAIRMAN ASKED HOW THE GDR WAS LISTED AT THE U.S., AND  
THE FRG REP REPLIED "GERMAN DEMORATIC REPUBLIC." U.S. DEPREP  
STATED THAT SINCE HE, ALONG WITH AMBASSADOR QUARLES OF  
THE NETHERLANDS, HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS CONTROVERSY IN THE  
SPRING, HE WOULD BE HAPPLY TO SUPPORT FRG REQUEST WITH SOVIETS IF  
NECESSARY. HE FELT THERE SHOLD BE NO PROBLEM SINCE KHLESTOV  
HAD SAID THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE RESOLVED BY U.. DECISION.  
HOWEVER HE THROUGHT THAT THE BELGIAN DELEGATION WAS THE PROPER  
INITIAL CHANNEL. BELGIAN ACTING REP ARGUED THAT A PRBLEM  
WAS POSED SINCE THERE HAD BEEN AN AGREEMENT THAT ALL PRCEDURAL  
ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE AS AGREED ON MAY 14 AND THAT CHANGING ONE  
THING MIGHT UNRAVEL OTHERS.  
FRG REP AND U.S. DEPREP RESPONDED THAT THIS ISSUE WAS A PURELY  
PROCEDURAL ONE, AND BELGIAN ACTING REP UNDERTOOK TO TRY TO GET  
AGREEMENT TO THE FRG REQUEST.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 PM-03 INR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 174

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INFO USMISSION NATO

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LIMDIS

8. BILATERALS. THERE WERE NO BILATERALS TO REPORT, BUT CANADIAN REP REPORTED THAT ROMANIAN DEP REP POPESCU WAS ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE ONE WITH HIS DELEGATION. U.S. REP SUGGESTED THAT THE OBVIOUS OBJECTIVE OF THE OTHER SIDE IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS WOULD BE A FISHING EXPEDITION AND THAT IT WOULD BE INADVISABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE GROUP TO REVEAL DETAILS OF THE ALLIED POSITION BEFORE THE OPENING STATEMENTS. IT WOULD BE BETTER TO FOCUS CONVERSATIONS ON PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, SUCH AS ORDER OF SPEAKERS IN FIRST PLENARY.

9. OPENING STATEMENTS. TURKISH REP (TUREL) CIRCULATED A DRAFT OPENING STATEMENT. IT WAS APPROVED AS CIRCULATED TEXT SEPTEL.

10. U.S. CIRCULATED REVISED VERSION OF ITS OPENING STATEMENT. DISCUSSION REPORTED SEP TEL.

11. PUBLIC AFFAIRS POLICY. U.S. CIRCULATED REVISED PAPER ON "ALLIED PRESS TACTICS IN VIENNA." A NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE AND ACCEPTED REGARDING MINOR DRAFTING POINTS. U.S. UNDERTOOK TO CIRCULATE FINAL TEXT, WHICH WILL BE TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.

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12. DISCUSSION OF THIS PAPER FOCUSED ON THE QUESTION OF HOW THE ALLIES CAN BEST SECURE SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF ALLIED INTENTION TO GIVE PRESS BACKGROUNDER, IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE AGREED PAPER OF MAY 14, 1973 STATED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. ALL AGREED THAT THE ISSUE WAS A TACTICAL ONE, ESPECIALLY SINCE ALLIES HAVE NO INTENTION OF RELEASING EXACT TEXTS OR THE CONTENTS OF INFORMAL MEETINGS. IT WAS EVENTUALLY AGREED THAT THE BEST AVAILABLE TACTIC WOULD BE TO INFORM THE SOVIETS THAT THE ALLIED INTERPRETATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY DID NOT PRECLUDE REVEALING THE GENERAL LINES OF PROPOSALS WHICH WERE PUT FORWARD IN NEGOTIATIONS.

13. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE AD HOC GROUP WILL BE AT 10:30 A.M. OCTOBER 17, IN THE U.S. DELEGATION CONFERENCE ROOM.  
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